(c) the steps Government has taken or proposes to take for rehabilitation of all sick micro and small enterprises in Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL) : (a) As per the Quick Results of Fourth All India Census of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) with the reference year of 2006-07 and the estimates made thereafter the number of micro, small, and medium enterprises (both registered and unregistered) existing in the State of Tamil Nadu as on 31.03.2009 were 25,95,127.

(b) As per the date compiled by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) from the scheduled commercial banks, there were 4,972 sick micro and small enterprises (MSEs) in the State of Tamil Nadu as at the end of March, 2009, out of which 834 sick MSEs were potentially viable.

(c) Financial assistance, by way of debt restructuring, including fresh loans, for the rehabilitation of sick MSEs is provided by the primary lending institutions (PLIs), including commercial banks, which provide credit to the MSEs. For this purpose, the RBI has issued detailed guidelines to banks in January 2002 on detection of sickness in MSEs at an early stage and taking remedial measures and for rehabilitation of sick MSEs identified as potentially viable. RBI has also issued guidelines on 8th September 2005 on debt restructuring mechanism for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) which relate, *inter alia*, to viability criteria, prudential norms for restructured accounts, provision of additional finance and time frame for working out the restructuring package and its implementation. Further, the RBI has advised all scheduled commercial banks on May 4, 2009 to apply the RBI's guidelines on debt restructuring optimally and in letter and spirit and put in place their own non-discretionary one-time settlement (OTS) policy for the MSE sector.

Shoe industry of Agra

1783. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that rising costs and shrinking markets have adversely hit the centuries old shoe industry of Agra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of person engaged in the industry and the steps taken by Government to revive and revamp the industry in Agra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL) : (a) to (c) The figures of All India Census of MSMEs (3rd and 4th) indicate that the number of units and employment in Footwear manufacturing in Agra increased from 1970 and 12417 in 2001-02 to 2725 and 17892 in 2006-07 respectively. Figures available for the registered sector in footwear manufacturing in Agra also shows an increase in gross output and fixed assets over the same period.

Ministry of MSME is implementing a number of schemes for the promotion and development of MSMEs including those engaged in footwear manufacturing. Major programmes include the Cluster Development Programme, Credit Guarantee Scheme for Micro and Small Enterprises, National Manufacturing Competitiveness Programme and Skill Development Programmes. The Ministry of MSME has also set up the Central Footwear Training Institute in Agra for this purpose. The Institute conducts training and also provides common facilities services to the micro and small units. In addition, the Government is implementing the Indian Leather Development Programme for growth of the leather sector.

Bell metal industries in Assam

1784. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the facts that the age-old bell metal industries at Sarthebari and Hajo in Assam are facing various problems;

(b) the details of steps taken by Government to promote such small and cottage industries in Assam and North East Region;

(c) whether Government would take steps to supply raw material to such industry at the working place like Sarthebari and Hajo; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL) : (a) to (d) Government of India and Government of Assam have taken various steps for promotion of bell and brass metal industry in small and cottage sector in Assam. Through its various schemes, Government of Assam has supported construction of godowns, factory sheds; use of improved tools; setting up of raw material depot etc. for the two clusters at Sarthebari and Hajo. Under the cluster development programme, Central Government, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises has supported capacity building and marketing inputs for the Hajo cluster as well as provided financial assistance for setting up of a common facility centre at Hajo.

Employment generation through PMEGP

1785. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has not fulfilled its promise of creating over six lakh jobs through the Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme during 2008-09;

(b) whether this is due to delay in issuing guidelines and reluctance of banks to disburse loans;